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# Mattings!

Our spring shipments are in direct from China and Japan.

It's an exceptional stock this year—and the patterns are unusually good.

The prices should especially appeal to you in connection with these qualities and designs.

Our Matting store stands for economy—the real economy that consists in having on your floors mattings that can be thoroughly depended upon.

The quoted prices always includes laying.

White Japanese Matting, inlaid designs, 25c yard.

Heavy China Matting, in small checks, plaids and stripes, 25c yard.

Extra Heavy China Matting, in neat checks and plaids, regular 35c quality, 28c yd.

Japanese Matting Rugs, in Oriental and floral patterns—  
36x72 inches.....50c  
6x9 feet.....\$2.25  
9x12 feet.....\$3.50  
9x12 feet.....\$4.50

Heavy China Matting Rugs, plain centres, fancy borders, 9x12 feet, \$5.50.

Kashmir Rugs, 9x12 feet, all colors, an ideal bed or dining-room rug, \$12.00.

## Imported Draperies

A new import order of English and French Cretonnes arrived yesterday. All colors and shadow effects. Without doubt they're the handsomest draperies we've ever shown.

25c, 50c, 59c and 65c yard.

## LOCAL MAN WILL FLY THIS SUMMER

John C. Telfer to Test New Heavier Than Air Aeroplane, Which He Has Invented.

### EMBODIES NEW PRINCIPLES

Inventor Says He Has Solved Problem of Balancing Gravitation and Air Pressure.

John C. Telfer, of 315 East Franklin Street, who came to Richmond several months ago from New York City, yesterday announced that he had invented a heavier than air aeroplane, which he claims to be an original departure from any now in practical use and to embody many new principles.

The machine is so constructed that it will, the inventor says, automatically maintain its equilibrium in all winds, and if any accident happens to the propelling machinery, the machine will descend as a parachute or be made to glide to earth on an inclined plane of atmosphere. The wooden structure between the planes are arranged in such a manner as to practically obviate the necessity of using guy wires, which are used on the Wright and other aeroplanes.

The uppermost plane is so constructed that it acts as a steering device for guiding the machine upwards and downwards at the will of the operator, and the rudder is so arranged in the rear as to automatically force the machine, in describing a circle, to lean towards the centre of the circle.

**Solved Difficult Problem.** The inventor also claims that he has solved the problem of maintaining the balance of the two forces, gravitation and upward air pressure, exactly in the centre of his machine, so that there is no possibility of the two centres being disturbed at any time in any wind, no matter how violent.

Mr. Telfer is protected at present by only one United States patent, and is giving the full description of his invention to the world he desires to take out at least one more United States patent and several foreign patents. When the application for these have been filed, he will make public a complete mechanical description with full drawings and photographs.

Mr. Telfer has invented and patented a peculiar form of propeller, which he believes will give increased service over the ordinary type with the application of ordinary power. The power used will be light gasoline motors, which will run two propellers in tandem.

One peculiarity of construction is that by means of a screw, the entire machine can be taken apart in a few minutes and the whole packed into a wagon and moved to another locality, where it can be set up again in a very few minutes.

The model, which Mr. Telfer has completed, has not a single guy wire, it is very light, and is so stable, rigid and elastic that it would seem as though it would be impossible to tear it apart. Mr. Telfer probably will return to Richmond to make a model of building a full size machine and demonstrating its practicability this summer.

### WILL SPEAK ON "THE IMMORTAL SIX HUNDRED"

Major J. Ogden Murray, of Charleston, W. Va., will deliver an address at Lee Amphitheatre on "The Immortal Six Hundred." The public is invited.

### Go to the Roads.

An order was issued yesterday by Judge Scott, of the Henric County Circuit Court, instructing Sheriff Kunkle to remove from the county any and all persons who are known to be in violation of the law against the sale of liquor.

### Broke His Little Finger.

William Thomas, of 1200 Accommodation Street, suffered a compound fracture of his little finger in a row with a negro boy yesterday. The boy, who is named John, is a negro, about the same age, was playing together when the latter struck him across the hand with a stick. He was taken to the City Home and an amputation may be necessary.

### Morris—Huntley.

Mrs. M. L. Huntley, of Williamsburg, and Robert Fielding Morris, formerly of Buckingham county, were married at 11 o'clock yesterday morning in the Albemarle Hotel. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. B. H. Melton. Both Mr. and Mrs. Morris have been in the service of the Eastern State Hospital. They will make their home in Williamsburg.

## CROWD SEES BOY STRUCK BY CAR

### Robert Sahnow Suffers Accident Which No One Seems Able to Explain.

Robert Hillsman Sahnow, eleven years old, of 1219 West Main Street, was severely injured yesterday, when he was struck by a car near Beech and Main Streets. Sahnow, according to one report, was riding on the back of a wagon and jumped off, and fell forward against the car. Another witness says he ran into the car while his friends were chasing him. Many persons saw the accident.

At all events, Sahnow suffered a laceration of the head which he rendered unconscious, and several physicians at first thought him to be dangerously wounded. He regained consciousness, however, and was removed from 1104 West Main Street, where he had been first taken, to his home. The accident occurred shortly before 7 o'clock.

It was said at the home several hours after the accident that the extent of the injuries will not be known for several days. The boy is a son of R. F. Sahnow, who is in business in Florence, S. C. He lives with his mother. Young Sahnow was knocked several feet by the impact of the blow.

### Tucker Begins Spellbinding.

Harry St. George Tucker, who has been in the city since Wednesday morning, left yesterday afternoon for Petersburg and Queen county. Today he will speak at Princeton, in that county, and return here to-morrow. He will remain in the city only a few hours, going over to Washington in the afternoon. Monday he is to open his stumpling campaign with a speech at Warrenton.

## FOUGHT HARD TO SAVE BABY'S LIFE

Little Fellow Cried for Toy as Sisters Tried to Smother Flames About Him.

### LINGERED ALL DAY IN PAIN

Stuart Burks Dies from Effects of Burns at His Home on Church Hill.

Three small sisters vainly attempted to save the life of Stuart Burks, five years old, who was burned yesterday morning, jumped from his seat at the dining-room table, where he had been left by his mother while she went to the corner grocery, and toddled into the nursery. His clothing caught fire from an open grate. He died at 7:05 o'clock last night, after lingering in an unconscious condition for more than twelve hours.

Gertrude, his seven-year-old sister, who was asleep in the nursery when he came running in, did not know that Stuart's clothes were afire until she was awakened by his screams. Her screams attracted the attention of the other sisters—Alleen, twelve years old, and Conny, ten years old—who rushed in from the front room to find the sister smothering at the burning clothing of her brother. The older girls shrieked, and it was while the three were trying to put out the flames that Mrs. Cassie Jordan, Mrs. Burks's sister, of 1123 North Twenty-second Street, entered the room.

**Mother Finds Sufferer.** All the children were crying, and the victim of the accident was standing in the middle of the room, screaming: "Put me out!" Mrs. Jordan gathered the flames in her arms and smothered the flames. The mother returned to find the sufferer kneeling in bed and crying piteously: "I want my ball." Mrs. Burks exclaimed: "My precious boy! I left him eating his breakfast, and to see him in such a condition."

She was so distressed that she had never been, and I promised to bring him a ball if he would be a good boy." Mrs. Burks had the gift in her hand as she came into the room. Mrs. Jordan, who was excited than the others, went to the nearest telephone and telephoned for the ambulance, which arrived shortly after 5 o'clock.

Dr. Bell realized at once that the baby could not live, and a little later Dr. George Gay gave the family the same distressing news. The boy's body was on the way to the morgue.

Many neighbors visited the house during the morning and afternoon and offered their assistance, and a relative engaged a trained nurse, who stayed beside the victim until his death. "This is the fifth child I have known to be burned since I have been practicing on Church Hill," said Dr. Gay last night, "and I have never known one of them to recover."

### Were Their Only Son.

Aside from the distressing misfortune in the loss of an only son, the Burks family has undergone during the past year a succession of hardships. R. H. Burks, the father, lost his position on the Seaboard Air Line when he was injured some months ago. He later removed with his family to Roanoke, but came back to Richmond when work gave out there.

Since January he has been without work, and the wife and children have been forced to endure many privations. Because work was scarce and his family was in poor circumstances, the father agreed Wednesday to accept a position at the Richmond Cedar Works. The family, however, had been there hardly more than an hour when he received the news of the accident. He reached home shortly before 10 o'clock.

Gertrude, who was awakened by her brother's screams, was alone when she found that Stuart's bib was on fire. The mother had tied the cloth around her son's neck. When Alleen and Conny entered the room his blouse waist was burning, and flames were encircling his head. Mrs. Jordan says his upper clothing had been burned from his body before she arrived.

### Gave No Encouragement.

All day yesterday the mother and father of the child waited in an adjoining room and then heard the news of his condition was given them. Dr. Gay realized from the first that there was no hope, and gave no encouragement to the parents. The three sisters, who tried so courageously to save their brother's life, were taken to Mrs. Jordan's. When death came several relatives of the family were in the room.

Mrs. Burks was formerly Miss Connelie Wheeler, of Nelson county, and she has three sisters—Mrs. Stuart McGeehe, of Roanoke; Mrs. H. B. Buchanan, of Norfolk; and Mrs. Cassie Jordan, of this City. The absent sisters have been telegraphed for and are expected to attend the funeral, which takes place from the home this afternoon. The service will be conducted by Rev. J. E. Stuart, of Venable Street Baptist Church.

### COCAINE MEN GALORE

#### Alleged Notorious Dispensers Will Fight Their Cases To-day.

In the arrest of several colored residents of Seventeenth Street the police believe they have got into the heart of the district from which cocaine is dispensed, and the belief is that convictions will mean a decrease in the drug traffic. Evidence against James Jones and George Tallafarro, who were tried in the Police Court yesterday, was sufficient for Justice Crutfield to send both men to the grand jury. They were arrested March 6.

There is no doubt but that the case of Charles White, who is charged with selling cocaine in one warrant, and with illicitly obtaining it in another, will take up the greater part of the day.

W. A. better known as "Caddy" Price, who is also regarded by the police to be a wholesale dealer in cocaine, will also be tried to-day, and it is said that he, too, will vigorously fight his case. Albert Smith, an alleged accessory, is held for having shielded Price when the officers were searching for him. Justice Crutfield is prepared for "a day of it" and it is probable that the setting of to-day's sun will end the court still busy.

### STATE AGRICULTURISTS WILL MEET HERE TO-DAY

The State Board of Agriculture and Immigration will meet at the Capitol Building at 10 o'clock this morning for the purpose of reorganizing and electing a president to succeed the late John W. Churchman. At this time it is not known who will offer for the office.

## Sisters Who Tried to Save Him



Gertrude Burks. Alleen Burks. Conny Burks.

## BENJAMIN GILBERT TO DIE IN ELECTRIC CHAIR TO-DAY

Ben Gilbert will die in the electric chair at the State Penitentiary early this morning for murdering his former sweetheart, Miss Amanda Morse.

Every possible effort has been made to save the life of the condemned youth, his parents and counsel not giving up the fight until the very eve of the day set for the execution.

The final plea to Governor Swanson to commute the sentence to life imprisonment was made yesterday. Daniel Coleman, counsel for the boy, writing a final letter, pleading for commutation of sentence, and inclosing a petition for commutation, which bore the signatures of several thousand Norfolk people.

After carefully reading both the letter of the attorney and the petition, Governor Swanson announced that Gilbert must die. This verdict was not unexpected, for time and again the Governor had announced that he would not interfere, because the murder was cold-blooded, brutal and unprovoked.

### Letter from Attorney.

In his letter to the Governor, Attorney Coleman said in part:

"I write to again ask that you reconsider your former action in refusing to commute the sentence in this case to life imprisonment. When you take into consideration the fact that Gilbert is only a boy, ignorant, tainted with hereditary insanity, insanely in love with his victim, that it must be a case which would entitle him to some consideration at your hands."

"The jury which found him guilty, having heard all the evidence, by their verdict recommending him to the mercy of the court, said that he was not a fit subject for capital punishment. The judge who tried the case told you that it was in his power he would commute the sentence to life imprisonment."

"I believe if you will commute the sentence of this poor innocent, desperate, and ignorant boy, that it will be a deed that you will be thankful for in after years."

### Scene of the Murder.

Gilbert shot down Miss Morse on the Camptella Bridge, in Norfolk, on the night of July 23, 1908, while she was in company with another young man. Gilbert approached the couple and asked them to get into a car with him. He then shot her. She refused, telling him

that he could speak to her in the presence of others.

When Gilbert made no reply she took the arm of the friend with her and started to walk away. Gilbert then drew a pistol and fired three shots. Two of the bullets entered the girl's back and the third grazed the coat of the man with her.

At the trial the defense sought to prove hereditary insanity. Following the trial eight members of the jury signed a petition asking the Governor to commute the sentence to life imprisonment. Judge Hankell, the trial judge, submitted the recommendation to the Governor. After carefully reading all of the evidence, Governor Swanson announced early in January that if he should commute Gilbert's sentence he would not allow another person to be electrocuted while he was Governor of Virginia.

The appeal to the Governor having failed, Daniel Coleman took the case to the Supreme Court of Virginia for a writ of error, having, in the meantime, secured two respite for Gilbert from Governor Swanson. The Supreme Court refused the writ of error last Monday.

### DRIVER QUILTS

#### Disciplined by Fire Board, He Leaves the Service.

Disciplined for insubordination, W. K. Thurston, a driver for fire engine, No. 4, Third Street engine house, has left the service of the department, after drawing his pay for the last half of this month, believing that he has been unjustly treated by the Board of Fire Commissioners. A charge of being drunk was reported to the department against him on the records of the department. Thurston had some small difficulty with Captain Gill, of his company, which was reported to the district chief, who deprived the driver of one day's leave of absence. He appealed to the Fire Board, which heard the case and increased the penalty to six days and a reprimand by the chief.

### Fined for Firing Rifle.

E. M. King was fined \$10 in the Police Court yesterday for shooting a rifle in the streets. The case is another of those in which ignorance of a city ordinance has caused a parent to be responsible for an act of a son. The offense is regarded as one of the most serious committed by youngsters, and Justice Crutfield never fails to inflict the penalty.

## WILLIAM BYRD TO GET BIGGEST SHARE

Committee Sets Aside \$10,000 for Improvement of Park in Far West End.

### NO TURN-ABOUT PLAN LIKED

One Thousand Dollars to Help City Jail—Playgrounds to Subcommittee.

Before the inevitable discussion over the apportionment of the \$38,000 allowed in the budget for use of parks and public buildings could be started at the meeting of the Grounds and Buildings Committee last night Alderman Marx Gust moved that the committee place the entire amount in the hands of the City Engineer to be used under the supervision of the committee for the perfection of one, the residue, should there be any, to be returned to the committee to be placed to the credit of the next park by year for improvement, thus year by year perfecting all the parks of the city. In this way he thought that all of the seven could be completed in as many years.

Mr. Gust explained that in offering the resolution he had no particular park in mind, and that he had as soon for the committee to start on one as the other, as, if his plan was acceptable, each would eventually be completed.

**Killed It Very Quickly.** Although there were some who recognized the good of the plan, Mr. Gust's resolution had the effect of producing a storm rather than a strong opposition. When the recorded vote was taken there were three members of the committee—Messrs. Gust, Tucker and Burton—voting aye, the others voting against the resolution or voting no.

Then came the discussion of what should really be done with the money, which was a mere pittance compared with the amount that the committee asked for. City Engineer Bolling presented a list he had made up as a guide, which on the whole was favorable, though several changes were suggested. On motion of Alderman Satterfield the committee adopted a resolution referring the matter to the City Engineer and the Building Inspector, with instructions to perfect the list and report to the next meeting. They will probably have it ready by this afternoon. In Mr. Bolling's recommendation the amounts are: William Byrd, \$10,000; Chatham and Riverside, \$2,500 each; Monroe, \$2,000; Jefferson, \$1,600; Marshall Square, \$1,500; City Nursery and Gamble's Hill, \$1,200 each; Terrace Roadway, \$1,000; \$1,000. All the others will get less than \$1,000.

According to the recommendation, the City Hall will get \$2,000, the Auditorium \$1,500, the City Jail \$1,000, Fairmount Hall \$500 and the Building Inspector's \$500. The Soldiers' Armory will receive \$500, which will be raised to \$1,500 from another fund, and the First Regiment Armory \$3,000 from a special appropriation.

### Playgrounds to Subcommittee.

With the report of the Building Inspector, Councilman Watkins wanted to go at once into the matter of the playgrounds and have it over. Alderman Burton thought best to refer it to a subcommittee. Mr. Watkins said that nothing was ever accomplished in subcommittees, so he preferred to handle it first hand. In spite of this, however, Mr. Burton offered the resolution that a subcommittee of three be appointed to look into the ordinances, expenditures and the status of the committee in the premises and report to the chairman of the Grounds and Buildings Committee. The motion was carried, only Mr. Watkins voting against it. Chairman Whitely appointed the following: Alderman Gust and Councilmen Buford and Don Leavy, who are directed to confer with the City Attorney, the City Engineer and the Civic Improvement League.

A letter was read from Chairman James Caskie, of the Battle Abbey committee, asking that action on the question of a site be postponed until a later date. The request was granted.

### SAYS CONTRACT WAS BROKEN

#### Contractor for Hauling Charity Wood Claims His Profit.

A. T. Crabb, city contractor for hauling wood from the City Home for distribution to the outdoor poor, has asked a special meeting of the Council Committee on Relief of the Poor to hear his claim that the contract has been violated and the work thrown to others. Crabb was engaged last September to haul wood from the City Home to charity cases at 12-1/2 cents a load. A Mr. Lacy formerly held this contract, and the complaint sets forth that during the last winter Lacy's teams have hauled several hundred loads of wood, on which the contractor claims to have lost a net profit of 10 cents a load, for which he thinks he should be reimbursed.

Superintendent Cabell, of the City Home, has already explained to the committee that his reason for employing the Lacy teams from time to time was that Contractor Crabb was unable to supply teams at different times during the winter months, when the poor case cases were suffering for lack of fuel, and where there could be no delay in the service.

This is contradicted by Crabb's lawyer, Alfred D. Cohen, who declared that at no time was the contractor unable to keep up with the work. The committee will take the matter up next week.

### KOHN CONVICTED

Sentence is Suspended Until an Appeal Case is Heard. In the Hastings Court yesterday Thomas H. Davis, indicted for forgery, pled guilty and was sentenced by the judge to two years on the roads. A second case against him was nolle prossed.

Samuel R. Kohn, indicted for forgery, pled guilty. Judge Witt announced his term of confinement at four years on the public roads, and suspended sentence. Kohn will be called in a case in which he and a man named Rosenthal have appealed from a misdemeanor conviction in the Police Court.

Percy Sield, alias Low Black, colored, indicted for malicious wounding, pled not guilty. The jury brought in a verdict of guilty of assault and battery, and fixed the term at twelve months in jail for each of which Judge Witt sentenced him to twelve months on the public roads.

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The selection of the leathers for each part of the shoe, and every detail of the making in every department, is looked after by the best shoemakers in the shoe industry. If I could show you how carefully W. L. Douglas shoes are made, you would then understand why they hold their shape, fit better and wear longer than any other make.

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